

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 11, 2008, which set a three-month period for response, making this amendment due by October 11, 2008.

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-18, 21, 22, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US PG Pub 2003/0191544 to Faulhammer in view of US PG Pub 2003/0186670 to Sorrells et al. Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faulhammer and Sorrells and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,678,030 to Sferazza et al. Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faulhammer et al and Sorrells et al and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,851,742 to Sommer et al. Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faulhammer et al and Sorrells and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,792,483 to Siegrist et al. Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faulhammer and Sorrells and further in view of U.S. PG Pub 2001/0018872 to Tokiwa.

The Applicant respectfully disagrees that the newly cited combination of the Faulhammer and Sorrells references renders obvious the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 24. However, to more clearly define the invention over these references, claims 1 and 24 have been amended to more clearly define the present invention over the cited combination.

Specifically, claim 1 now defines the following:

a drive device of a printing press, having at least two virtual leading axles (a; b) for presetting a desired angular position (Φ_i) of a drive (08) of at least one unit (01; 02; 03; 04; 06; 07) driven by a separate drive motor (M), wherein the at least two virtual leading axles (a; b) are connected to at least one circuit (15; 20), which is configured to convert chronologically changing datum for the angular position of a leading axle position (Φ) into a pulse train ($I(t); I_0(t)$) in the form of output signals ($I(t); I_0(t)$), wherein the circuit is configured to be parameterized with regard to a number of pulses per rotation ($n/2\pi$) and an association with one of the at least two virtual leading axles (a; b).

Method claim 24 has been amended similarly.

Support for the language added to claims 1 and 24 can be found in Fig. 4 and the associated description on pages 16-18 of the specification.

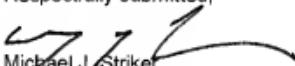
Neither Faulhammer nor Sorrells disclose or suggest providing at least two virtual leading axles AND that the circuit is configured to be parameterized with regard to a number of pulses per rotation ($n/2\pi$) and an assignment to one of the at least two virtual leading axles (a; b).

It is respectfully submitted that **since the prior art does not suggest the desirability of the claimed invention**, as defined in the amended claims, such art cannot establish a prima facie case of obviousness as clearly set forth in MPEP section 2143.01. Pursuant to the new KSR guidelines in the latest version of the MPEP (Revision 6, September 2007), Section 214, III., the Examiner must

clearly articulate why the claimed invention would have been obvious, and cannot make "mere conclusory statements"; his analysis must be "explicit".

The application in its amended state is believed to be in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited. Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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